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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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RECEIVED

Applicants: Mauze & Yang  
Serial No.: 09/740,660  
Filed: December 18, 2000  
For: Fluorescence Immunoassays Using Organo-Metallic Complexes for Energy Transfer

Examiner: Ceperley  
Art Unit: 1641

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 16, 2002 Applicants request entrance of the following Amendment and consideration of the following Remarks:

**Amendment**

In the specification:

Please **replace** the paragraph that begins on line 17 of page 2 with the following paragraph:

A1

--The invention provides a composition of matter and method of using the same for immunoassays. The encapsulation vesicle comprises a matrix, a surface coating with an organo-metallic complex and a transparent protection layer. The protection layer is capable of modification by addition of biomolecules to the exterior surface. The biomolecules may comprise one or more acceptor molecules. The proximity of the bound biomolecules to the protection layer allows for energy transfer from donor molecules that are inside of the transparent protection layer to the acceptor molecules that are outside the transparent protection layer. The transparent protection layer acts to diminish the effects of collisional quenching by small molecules such as oxygen to the donor molecules. The method includes a number of novel immunoassays that utilizes energy transfer between one or more donor and acceptor molecules.--

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